

**Danoff, Karen**

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**From:** FOIA Resource  
**Sent:** Thursday, January 21, 2016 11:34 AM  
**To:** 21895-50033453@requests.muckrock.com  
**Cc:** Stevens, Margo  
**Subject:** FOIA/PA-2016-00216 Acknowledgment Letter

Acknowledgment letter signed by Roger Andoh, FOIA Officer. No hard copy to follow. If you are unable to open the document, please let us know by return email (FOIA.Resource@nrc.gov) or call 301-415-7169.



UNITED STATES  
NUCLEAR REGULATORY COMMISSION  
WASHINGTON, D.C. 20555-0001

January 21, 2016

FOIA/PA-2016-00216

Mr. Martin Peck  
c/o MuckRock  
DEPT MR 21895  
PO Box 55819  
Boston, MA 02205-5819

Dear Mr. Peck:

Your Freedom of Information Act (FOIA) request to the Department of Homeland Security (DHS), by letter dated November 12, 2015, was referred to our office on January 14, 2016.

Your request (DHS reference number, DHS/OS/PRIV 2016-HQFO-00048), which seeks access to "the first page (redacted if necessary) of each and every Classification Guide produced by Original Classification Authorities... for all years available", has been assigned the following reference number that you should use in any future communications with us about your request: FOIA/PA-2016-00216. The DHS identified two pages<sup>1</sup> that it referred to the U.S. Nuclear Regulatory Commission for direct response to you.

To ensure the most equitable treatment possible of all requesters, the NRC processes requests on a first-in, first-out basis, using a multiple track system based upon the estimated time it will take to process a request. Based on your description of the records you are seeking, we estimate completion of your request will be on or before February 26, 2016. Please note that we are estimating that completion will take more than 20 working days because we must:

- search for, collect, and appropriately examine a voluminous amount of records
- consult with multiple program and/or regional offices within the NRC
- consult with other Federal agencies having equities in the records
- refer records to a licensee, or other business submitter
- undertake a declassification review of classified records; or
- retrieve records from Federal Records Centers or other off-site facilities.

Please know that this date roughly estimates how long it will take us to close requests ahead of yours in the respective track and complete work on your request. The actual date of completion might be before or after this estimate, based on the complexity of all of the requests in the complex track. We will advise you of any change in the estimated time to complete your request. In an effort to process your request promptly, you may wish to narrow the scope of your request to limit the volume of potentially responsive records.

For purposes of assessing fees in accordance with our regulations (10 CFR 9.33), we have placed your request in the following category: non-excepted requester. However, because the DHS referred the pages in question, there will be no search fees; because you requested the

<sup>1</sup> The two pages are the first pages of two different Classification Guides. The first guide, used jointly by the DHS, NRC, and Department of Energy (DOE). The second guide, used solely by DOE, was apparently misdirected to the NRC. In an effort to provide you with the most complete, and timely, response, our office is conferring with DOE so that the NRC may provide you a response on both pages.

records electronically, there will be no duplication fees. Thus, your request for a fee waiver is moot.

The following person is the Government Information Specialist who has been assigned responsibility for your request: Margo Stevens at 301-415-8148 or [Margo.Stevens@nrc.gov](mailto:Margo.Stevens@nrc.gov).

If you have questions on any matters concerning your FOIA request, please feel free to contact the assigned Government Information Specialist or me at (301) 415-7169.

Sincerely,

*Roger D. Andoh /s/*

Roger D. Andoh  
FOIA Officer  
Office of the Chief Information Officer

**From:** Stevens, Margo  
**To:** [21895-50033453@requests.muckrock.com](mailto:21895-50033453@requests.muckrock.com)  
**Cc:** "Stevens, Margo"  
**Subject:** RE: FOIA/PA-2016-00216  
**Date:** Wednesday, February 17, 2016 2:15:00 PM

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Hello again, Mr. Peck. After learning that my FOIA counterparts at Department of Energy (DOE) were still awaiting input from their program office subject matter experts, I had sent you the email below. Subsequently, I spoke with my FOIA counterparts and it was decided that the most efficient course of action from this point forward was to refer your request to DOE. Since both DHS and NRC have already identified its recommendations, the matter is resting with DOE. I understand that you will be hearing from DOE soon, acknowledging their assumption of the responsibility for your request. Thank you.

*Margo L. Stevens*  
*FOIA Analyst/Team Leader (Contractor)*  
*OClO/CSD/FPIB*  
*U.S. Nuclear Regulatory Commission*  
*11545 Rockville Pike, Mail Stop T-2F7*  
*Rockville, Maryland 20855*  
*Telephone #: (301) 415-8148*

**From:** Stevens, Margo [mailto:foia.resource@nrc.gov]  
**Sent:** Wednesday, February 17, 2016 11:54 AM  
**To:** [21895-50033453@requests.muckrock.com](mailto:21895-50033453@requests.muckrock.com)  
**Cc:** Stevens, Margo <Margo.Stevens@nrc.gov>  
**Subject:** FOIA/PA-2016-00216

Good morning, Mr. Peck.

Upon receipt of the referral of your request from DHS, which we have denominated as FOIA/PA-2016-00216, I sent you an acknowledgment letter, dated January 21, 2016, confirming our receipt of that referral. Because the two referred documents (first pages of classification guides) implicated equities not only of DHS (which had provided its input to me) and NRC (the relevant program office has provided its input to me) but the Department of Energy, we must consult with DOE before issuing our response to you. Although our acknowledgment letter provided an estimated date of completion of February 26, 2016, it appears that it will take additional time to complete this consultation. To date, DOE's FOIA staff has not received the input they need from their program office). But, rest assured I regularly check in with my counterparts at DOE's FOIA Office, and I promise you that I will do all that I can to assure as timely a response as practicable. Although I would prefer to give you a new estimated date of completion, at this moment, I have not received a projected date from DOE. Of course, you are welcome to check in with me at any time. My contact information is below.

Thank you.

Margo L. Stevens

FOIA Analyst/Team Leader (Contractor)

OCIO/CSD/FPIB

U.S. Nuclear Regulatory Commission

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